

# Add a Garden Bench

Expand the arbor's versatility and good looks by building this garden bench. A simple frame supports the seat and a slatted back lets the garden breeze pass through.

By itself, this arbor will attract plenty of attention. But add this bench and you create a convenient spot to relax and enjoy the garden scenery around you.

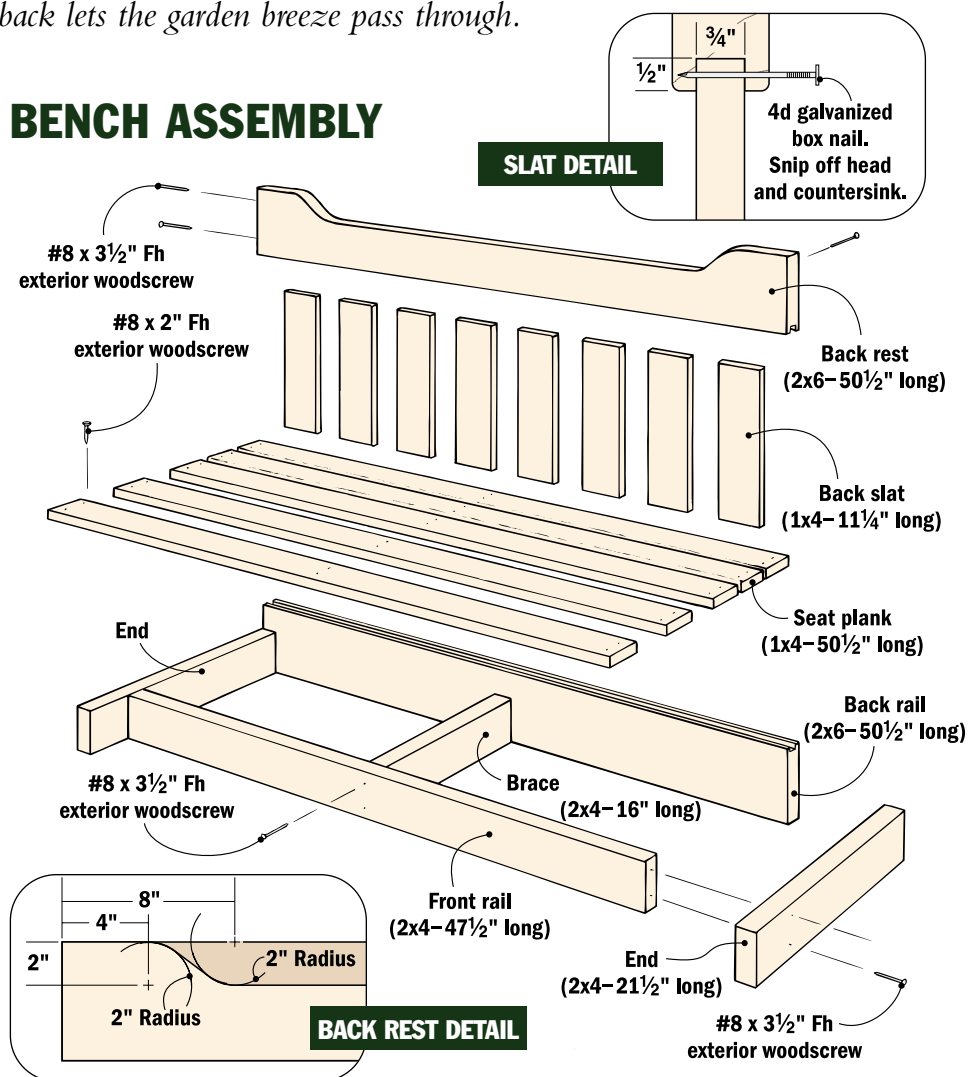
## BUILD THE FRAME FIRST

A simple 2x4 frame holds up the bench seat and also ties the two arbor side panels together. The back is built similar to the arbor's side panels — grooves capture the seat's back slats.

Even though the *Materials List* gives bench part dimensions, you'll want to measure your arbor before cutting any material. With the parts all cut to length, rout the groove for the back slats in the back rest and back rail. Then lay out and cut the back rest to shape (*Back Rest Detail*).

Now, screw the seat frame together. To hold the frame in position, clamp temporary cleats to the arbor legs (*Fig. 1*). Next, screw the seat planks to the frame. Then set the slats in the back rail groove and fit the back rest over them. Screw the back rest to the arbor. Use a 2½"-wide spacer to position the slats, then tack them in place with 4d galvanized box nails (*Fig. 2* and *Slat Detail*).

## BENCH ASSEMBLY



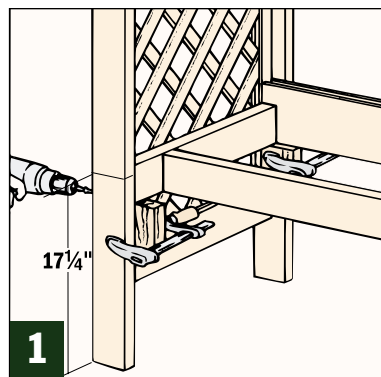
## MATERIALS LIST

### LUMBER:

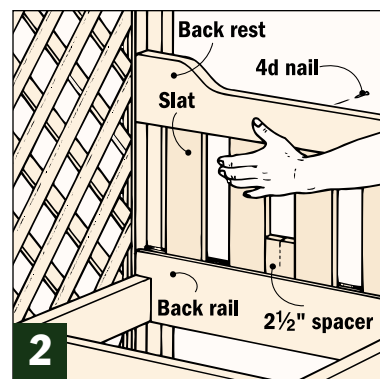
(2)	Ends	1½" x 3½" x 21½"
(1)	Front Rail	1½" x 3½" x 47½"
(1)	Back Rail	1½" x 5½" x 50½"
(5)	Seat Planks	¾" x 3½" x 50½"
(1)	Back Rest	1½" x 5½" x 50½"
(1)	Seat Brace	1½" x 3½" x 16"
(8)	Back Slats	¾" x 3½" x 11¼"

### HARDWARE:

(29)	#8 x 2" Fh exterior woodscrews
(4)	#8 x 2¾" Fh exterior woodscrews
(20)	#8 x 3½" Fh exterior woodscrews
(16)	4d galv. box nails (w/heads clipped)



Clamp cleats to the arbor legs to support the bench frame until you can drive the screws. Position the cleat so the top of the seat end is 17¼" high.



Fit the slats in the grooved back rail, then install the backrest over the top of the slats. Slide the slats into position with a spacer and tack them in place.